Availability of study materials on the Internet

†111. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to make available all types of books of higher education and important research documents on various subjects and journals on the Internet, so that students and teachers could download any of these contents as per their requirement, on payment of nominal charges;

(b) whether in view of this, any plan is under consideration of Government to provide computers to the colleges on half price; and

(c) whether any plan for providing free broad-band connection at the residence of the teachers is under consideration in the University Grants Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has a scheme namely 'UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme' to provide for networking of university campus with state-of-art campus wide networks and recurring costs on Internet bandwidth. UGC also has another scheme namely 'UGC Infonet Digital Library Consortium' to provide for access to more than 5000 electronic journals and three major bibliographic database under this initiative.

(b) UGC has provided financial assistance to 3486 colleges so far under the Scheme of Establishment of Network Resource Centre (UGC-NRC) in colleges during X Plan period, which are eligible to receive financial assistance under Section 2(f) & 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956. The assistance is provided for the purchase of computers and also for Internet Connectivity for an amount of Rs. 1,50,000/- towards purchase of Computers and Rs. 10,000/- per annum for Internet Connectivity, for the first time and Rs. 50,000/- for Computers and Rs. 10,000/- per annum for Internet Connectivity, for the second time.

(c) There is no such plan at present.

Implementation of e-courts project

112. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of implemenation of e-courts project in the country;

(b) whether it would interlink all the courts across the country and help the litigants to have access to authorized documents; and

(c) the details of the districts where it is proposed to be implemented in the first phase and the time-frame within which all the districts in Orissa would be covered under this project?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The e-courts project was approved by Government of India in February, 2007 and the first phase is already under implementation. National Informatics Centre (NIC) which is the implementing agency for this project has reported that hitherto, laptops to 12155 judges across the country have been provided and around 13000 laser printers are getting delivered for those laptops. Three months' training on the usage of computers has already begun and so far 8700 judicial

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

officers and around 32000 court staff are getting trained by 1210 faculty members. This training is going on at majority of the District Courts and in some of the Taluka/Tehsil Courts. The High Courts have constituted Project Monitoring Committees to oversee the project activities in the District/Taluka Courts under their jurisdiction. Many High Courts have also constituted Committees for getting site preparation executed with the help of State Public Works Department.

For around 13000 judges E-mail/Internet facility is being provided through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.

(b)Yes, Sir.

(c) The entire project is scheduled to be implemented by February, 2009 across the country including in the districts of Orissa.

Electoral rolls with voters' photographs

113. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has decided to introduce new electoral rolls, with photograph of voters;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has started the work in any of the States;

(c) the total expenditure involved in the project;

(d) whether any provisions of law are proposed to be amended for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report of the National Commission to review working of Constitution

114. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations made by the National Commission to review the Working of Constitution in its report; and

(b) the status of implementation of the report as on date?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The National Commission to Review the Working of Constitution has submitted its report to the Government on 31st March, 2002. The Commission has made various recommendations pertaining to (i) Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles and Fundamental Duties; (ii) Electoral Processes and Political Parties; (iii) Parliament and State Legislatures; (iv) Executive and Public Administration; (v) The Judiciary; (vi) Union-State Relations; (vii) Decentralisation and Devolution; and (viii) Pace of Socio-Economic change and Development. The recommendations involve amendments to the Constitution, Legislative measures and executive action. The full text of the report of the Commission has been put on the Internet [www.lawmin.nic.in].

(b) Action on the recommendations lies with the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, which are administratively concerned with the subject matter of the recommendations. Copies of the report have already been forwarded to the Ministries/Departments.